

The President

Ref. No. PO-2023/096
June 30, 2023

World Taekwondo Council
Presidents and Secretaries General of WT Continental Unions
Presidents and Secretaries General of WT Member National Associations

UPDATES SINCE BAKU 2023

Dear colleagues,

It has been about a month since we celebrated our 50th Founding Anniversary on the occasion of the World Taekwondo Championships in Baku, Azerbaijan. I wish to once again thank Mr. Kamaladdin Heydarov for organising a memorable World Championships and Golden Jubilee Gala in our honour.

I wish to inform you that the IOC President, at the 140th IOC Session this month, praised the sport of Taekwondo, as one of the two model examples for the inclusion of Individual Neutral Athletes with Russian and Belarusian passports. The IOC President thanked World Taekwondo for following the IOC's recommendations and highlighted to the IOC Session that the number of MNAs that participated in the Baku 2023 World Taekwondo Championships was high. He thanked World Taekwondo for "protecting the autonomy of sport and protecting the athletes", and he also commended the athletes for demonstrating the "real Olympic spirit of peaceful competition without any discrimination".

I wish to thank you for standing in solidarity and showing the world what **Peace is more Precious than Triumph** truly means in the context of sport.

In the weeks since the World Championships, World Taekwondo also achieved a remarkable first with Virtual Taekwondo at the Olympic Esports Week. The IOC President praised the Virtual Taekwondo event, which was the last final of the Olympic Esports Series 2023, for drawing one of the biggest crowds of the entire Olympic Esports Week.

This is an outstanding achievement and it confirms that the future of Taekwondo has arrived in the form of Virtual Taekwondo. We will soon be sharing media and information about the Virtual Taekwondo system co-developed between World Taekwondo and our technology partner, Refract Technologies.



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Moving forward, we will continue to improve on the system to deliver an exhilarating experience for all *Taekwondo*in. We will organise more Virtual Taekwondo showcase events and also engage with interested parties on the purchase of systems to promote in your respective countries.

Our aim is to organise a World Virtual Taekwondo Championships by next year, in addition to Virtual Taekwondo being a mainstay in our promoted and recognised events, which will undoubtedly elevate Virtual Taekwondo's chances as an Olympic sport when the time comes for the IOC to make a decision.

Taking this opportunity, I wish to thank each and every one of you for your selfless dedication for our beloved sport and organisation. Thank you for having **Peace in Mind, Taekwondo at Heart.**

Sincerely yours,

Chungwon Choue

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President

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